

the object of this discourse. I shall introduce it by directing your attention to its

#### I. NATURAL FEATURES.

The township of Mount Pleasant lies in a territory broken into hills and valleys, by the extreme northern branches of the Alleghany range of mountains. This range is here lost in the irregularities of the surface. The only mountain in this town worthy a name, is the Moosic range, which here runs North and South, and receives upon its summit our Western boundary. In its natural state it is covered with a heavy growth of beech, maple, and hemlock, with a limited quantity of ash and elm interspersed. The soil is chiefly a sandy loam, and rests on a strata of sand rock, called "Millstone Grit." At various places the old red sandstone appears, giving character to the soil.\* The most prominent streams of this town are the Dyberry† and the Lackawaxen. The former runs through the Eastern, and the latter through the Western part of the town, furnishing upon their banks many valuable mill-seats.

There are in this town four of those beautiful lakes so often found in this part of the State. They are formed by springs, and are clear as crystal. They usually constitute the head of some stream. The names of these lakes are as follows: Duck Lake, Rook Lake, Howe's Pond, and Bigelow Lake. The first two mentioned are in the northeast part of

\* See Appendix, No. 4.

† See Appendix, No. 5.

the town, and divided by the town line. Howe's Pond has two outlets. One is at the Eastern extremity, and empties into the Dyberry. The other is at the Western extremity, and empties into the Lackawaxen. Bigelow Lake forms the head of Thompson's Creek, which also flows into the Lackawaxen. This stream, a few rods below the lake, plunges over a fall of about one hundred feet, in two perpendicular cataracts, which are but a few feet apart. We know of no waterfall in this region equal to it in beauty. The view from below is enchanting. The shrubbery and trees which overhang the crystal water as it dashes over the rocks, greatly add to its effect. We hope the enterprising individual who has erected his mills by the side of this waterfall, will suffer them long to remain.

#### II. ABORIGINES.

There are no evidences within the limits of this town of any Indian battle-ground, or any important event connected with their history. Still there are abundant indications that it was once occupied by them as a hunting-ground.

The large number of Indian arrow-heads found here, leaves no room to doubt it.\* These arrow-heads are invariably made of flint. This region afforded for them a rich field. On the head waters of the Dy-

\* There have also been found in this vicinity, pieces of ancient English coin. One now in possession of the writer bears date 1707, coined under George II., King of Great Britain.